

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims relating to the above-captioned patent application, as amended herein and with the status thereof, are as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A load/unload ramp assembly that is interconnectable
5 with a base plate of a disk drive, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end and a first fixed
end, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever is configured such that said first free end is
separated from an underlying portion of the base plate by a first open space when said load/unload
ramp is initially positioned on the base plate, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever is
10 configured and positioned such that a shaft of a fastener can pass by said first base plate attachment
cantilever and into engagement with the base plate, and such that reducing a spacing between a head
of the fastener ~~can~~ and the base plate causes the head to exert a force on said first base plate
attachment cantilever to deflect said first free end of said first base plate attachment cantilever
through the first open space, toward the base plate, and at least generally about said first fixed end so
15 as to and direct said load/unload ramp assembly into forcible engagement with the base plate when
said load/unload ramp assembly is installed on the base plate.

2. (Currently Amended) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1,
wherein said ramp body further comprises at least one aperture shelf ~~that is disposed about said~~
~~fastener aperture~~, wherein said at least one aperture shelf is recessed relative to an upper surface of
20 said first base plate attachment cantilever.

3. (Currently Amended) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 2,
further comprising a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end and a
second fixed end, wherein said second free end is separated from an underlying portion of the base
plate by a second open space when said load/unload ramp is initially positioned on the base plate,
5 wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a
fastener aperture, wherein the shaft of the fastener can pass through said fastener aperture and into
engagement with the base plate such that ~~and~~ the head of the fastener ~~can~~ exerts a force on said first
and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect said first and second free ends of said first
and second base plate attachment cantilevers, respectively, through said first and second open spaces,
10 respectively, toward the base plate, and at least generally about said first and second fixed ends,
respectively, so as to thereby direct said load/unload ramp assembly into forcible engagement with
the base plate ~~when said load/unload ramp assembly is installed on the base plate~~, wherein said first
and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed in opposing relation, and wherein said at
least one aperture shelf comprises first and second aperture shelves that are disposed in opposing
15 relation.

4. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said
first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed about said fastener aperture such that
an imaginary line connecting said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers is perpendicular
to an imaginary line connecting said first and second aperture shelves.

20 5. (Currently Amended) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1,
further comprising a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end and a
second fixed end, wherein said second free end is separated from an underlying portion of the base
plate by a second open space when said load/unload ramp is initially positioned on the base plate,

wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a fastener aperture, wherein the shaft of the fastener can pass through said fastener aperture and into engagement with the base plate such that the head of the fastener ~~can~~ exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect first and second free ends of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers respectively, through said first and second open spaces, respectively, toward the base plate, and at least generally about said first and second fixed ends, respectively, and so as to thereby direct said load/unload ramp assembly into forcible engagement with the base plate when said load/unload ramp assembly is installed on the base plate.

6. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises at least one fastener head contact protrusion disposed on an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever.

7. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein each said fastener head contact protrusion on said first base plate attachment cantilever is disposed at least generally at said first free end.

8. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises a pair of said fastener head contact protrusions.

9. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever is disposed in at least substantially horizontal relation when said load/unload ramp assembly is installed on the base plate.

20 10. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises a lower surface, wherein said lower surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever extends at least generally upwardly progressing toward said first free end of said first base plate attachment cantilever.

11. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said ramp body further comprises at least one base plate alignment post.

12. (Original) A load/unload ramp assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said ramp body is fabricated from plastic.

5 13. (Currently Amended) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;

a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

10 a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end and a first fixed end; and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said first free end of said first base plate attachment cantilever is separated from an underlying portion of said base plate by a first open space when said load/unload ramp is initially positioned on said base plate and prior to engagement of said fastener with said base plate, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate, wherein decreasing a spacing between said head of said fastener and said base plate causes such that said head of said fastener to exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first free end of said first base plate attachment cantilever through said first open space, toward said base plate, and at least generally about said first fixed end of said first base plate attachment cantilever so as to reduce a magnitude of said first open

space and in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate.

14. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said base plate further comprises first and second mounting pads disposed on said first surface of said base plate.

5 15. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said first and second mounting pads are recessed relative to said boss of said base plate.

16. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said first and second mounting pads are disposed in opposing relation.

10 17. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said boss of said base plate is disposed between said first and second mounting pads.

15 18. (Currently Amended) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 14, further comprising a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end and a second fixed end, wherein said second free end is separated from an underlying portion of said base plate by a second open space when said load/unload ramp is initially positioned on said base plate and prior to engagement of said fastener with said base plate, wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a fastener aperture, wherein said shaft of said fastener passes through said fastener aperture of said load/unload ramp assembly and said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect first and second free ends of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers, respectively, through said first and second open spaces, respectively, toward said base plate, and at least generally about said first and second fixed ends, respectively, so as to reduce a magnitude of said first and second open spaces and in turn force said bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate.

19. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said first and second mounting pads are disposed about said boss of said base plate such that an imaginary line connecting said first and second mounting pads is perpendicular to an imaginary line connecting said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers of said load/unload ramp assembly.

5 20. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said ramp body further comprises at least one aperture shelf that is disposed about said fastener aperture, wherein said at least one aperture shelf is recessed relative to an upper surface of each of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers, and wherein said at least one aperture shelf overlays at least one of said first and second mounting pads.

10 21. (Currently Amended) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said ramp body further comprises at least one aperture shelf that is disposed about said fastener aperturereceptacle, wherein said at least one aperture shelf is recessed relative to an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever.

15 22. (Currently Amended) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 21, further comprising a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end and a second fixed end, wherein said second free end is separated from an underlying portion of said base plate by a second open space when said load/unload ramp is initially positioned on said base plate and prior to engagement of said fastener with said base plate, wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a fastener aperture, wherein said shaft of said fastener
20 passes through said fastener aperture of said load/unload ramp assembly such that and said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect said first and second free ends of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers , respectively, through said first and second open spaces , respectively, toward said base plate , and at least generally

about said first and second fixed ends, respectively, to reduce a magnitude of said first and second open spaces and in turn force said bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed in opposing relation, and wherein said at least one aperture shelf 5 comprises first and second aperture shelves that are disposed in opposing relation.

23. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 22, wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed about said fastener aperture such that an imaginary line connecting said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers is perpendicular to an imaginary line connecting said first and second aperture shelves.

10 24. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises at least one fastener head contact protrusion disposed on an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever.

15 25. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 24, wherein each said fastener head contact protrusion on said first base plate attachment cantilever is disposed at least generally at said first free end.

26. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 24, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises a pair of said fastener head contact protrusions.

20 27. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever is substantially parallel with said first surface of said base plate.

28. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises a lower surface, wherein said lower surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever extends at least generally upwardly progressing toward said first free end of

said first base plate attachment cantilever.

29. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said base plate further comprises at least one alignment hole.

30. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 29, wherein said at least one
5 alignment hole comprises first and second alignment holes, wherein said boss of said base plate is disposed between said first and second alignment holes of said base plate.

31. (Currently Amended) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 3029, wherein said bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly comprises at least one alignment post configured to fit into a complimentarily shaped said at least one alignment hole of said base plate.

10 32. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 31, wherein said at least one alignment post comprises a cross-sectional configuration selected from the group consisting of circular, oval, and quadrilateral.

15 33. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said base plate comprises first and second alignment holes disposed on opposite sides of said boss, wherein said base plate also comprises first and second mounting pads disposed on opposite sides of said boss, and wherein a first imaginary line connecting said first and second alignment holes is substantially perpendicular to a second imaginary line connecting said first and second mounting pads.

34. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein a lower surface of said head of said fastener is seated on an upper surface of said boss of said base plate.

20 35. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein a lower surface of said head of said fastener deflects said first base plate attachment cantilever into forcible engagement with underlying portions of said first surface of said base plate.

36. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said fastener exerts an axial force within a range of about 25 pounds up to about 400 pounds on said boss of said base plate.

37. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said fastener exerts
5 an axial force within a range of about 100 pounds up to about 200 pounds on said boss of said base plate.

38. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said fastener exerts an axial force within a range of about 1 pound up to about 10 pounds on said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly.

10 39. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever deflects from about 4 mils to about 8 mils due to the force exerted by said head of said fastener.

40. (Original) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 13, further comprising a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end and a second fixed end, wherein
15 said second free end is separated from an underlying portion of said base plate by a second open space when said load/unload ramp is initially positioned on said base plate and prior to engagement of said fastener with said base plate, wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a fastener aperture, wherein said shaft of said fastener passes through said fastener aperture of said load/unload ramp assembly and such that said head of said
20 fastener exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect said first and second free ends of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers, respectively, through said first and second open spaces, respectively, toward said base plate, and at least generally about said first and second fixed ends, respectively, to in turn reduce a magnitude of said first and second

open spaces and force said bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, ~~wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed in opposing relation.~~

41-50. (Canceled)

5 51. (Currently Amended) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate;

a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever comprising a first free end and

10 a first fixed end; and

a fastener engaged with said base plate, engaged with said first base plate attachment cantilever, and movable from a first position to a second position, wherein said first free end of said first base plate attachment cantilever is in spaced relation to separated from an underlying portion of said base plate by first open space when said fastener is in said first position, and wherein said first free end of said first base plate attachment cantilever is deflected through said first open space, toward said base plate, and at least generally about said first fixed end of said first base plate attachment cantilever into engagement with said base plate when so as to reduce a magnitude of said first open space and force said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said base plate by moving said fastener from said first position to is in said second position.

20 52. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 51, wherein said base plate comprises a raised boss, wherein said raised boss comprises a fastener receptacle, wherein

said fastener extends within said fastener receptacle.

53. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 52, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever extends toward, but not to, a sidewall of said raised boss.

54. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 52, wherein said fastener exerts a first axial force on said raised boss and a second axial force on said first base plate attachment cantilever, wherein said first axial force is greater than said second axial force.

55. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 52, wherein said fastener exerts a first axial force on said raised boss within a range of about 25 pounds to about 400 pounds, and exerts a second axial force on said first base plate attachment cantilever within a range 10 of about 1 pound to about 10 pounds.

56. (Currently Amended) A disk drive, ~~as claimed~~, as claimed in Claim 51, wherein said base plate comprises first and second alignment holes and said ramp body comprises first and second alignment pins disposed within said first and second alignment holes, respectively.

57. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 51, wherein said first 15 base plate attachment cantilever is at least generally wedge-shaped.

58. (Currently Amended) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 51, wherein said ramp body further comprises a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end and a second fixed end, wherein said second free end is separated from an underlying portion of said base plate by a second open space when said fastener is in said first position, and wherein said 20 fastener simultaneously engages both said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers when said fastener is moved from said first position to said second position, and wherein said first and second free ends of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers, respectively, are deflected through said first and second open spaces, respectively, toward said base plate, and at least generally

about said first and second fixed ends, respectively, to reduce a magnitude of said first and second open spaces and force said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said base plate by moving said fastener from said first position to said second position. ~~wherein said second base attachment cantilever is in spaced relation to said base plate when said fastener is in said first position, and wherein said second base plate attachment cantilever is deflected into engagement with said base plate when said fastener is in said second position.~~

5 59. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 58, wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed in opposing relation and separated by a gap, wherein said fastener comprises a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft extends through said gap
10 to engage said base plate, and wherein said head of said fastener is larger than said gap so as to simultaneously engage each of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers.

15 60. (Previously Presented) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 58, wherein said base plate further comprises first and second raised pads engaged with said ramp body, wherein said first and second raised pads and said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are equally spaced about said fastener, with said first and second raised pads being disposed between said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers proceeding in opposite directions about said fastener.

20 61. (New) A load/unload ramp assembly that is interconnectable with a base plate of a disk drive, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

25 a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end, wherein a fastener can pass by said first base plate attachment cantilever such that a head of the fastener can exert a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment

cantilever toward the base plate and direct said load/unload ramp assembly into forcible engagement with the base plate when said load/unload ramp assembly is installed on the base plate, wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises at least one fastener head contact protrusion disposed on an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever, and wherein said first base plate
5 attachment cantilever comprises a pair of said fastener head contact protrusions.

62. (New) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle, wherein said base plate further comprises first and second mounting pads disposed on said first surface of said base plate, wherein said first
10 and second mounting pads are disposed in opposing relation, and wherein said boss of said base plate is disposed between said first and second mounting pads;

a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

15 and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment
20 cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate.

63. (New) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle, and wherein said base plate further comprises first and second mounting pads disposed on said first surface of said base plate;

5 a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp;

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

and

a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free

10 end, wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a fastener aperture; and

15 a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said fastener passes through said fastener aperture of said load/unload ramp assembly and said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers toward said base plate to in turn force said bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate.

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64. (New) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 63, wherein said first and second mounting pads are disposed about said boss of said base plate such that an imaginary line connecting said first and second mounting pads is perpendicular to an imaginary line connecting said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers of said load/unload ramp assembly.

5 65. (New) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 63, wherein said ramp body further comprises at least one aperture shelf that is disposed about said fastener aperture, wherein said at least one aperture shelf is recessed relative to an upper surface of each of said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers, and wherein said at least one aperture shelf overlays at least one of said first and second mounting pads.

10 66. (New) A disk drive comprising:
a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;
a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:
a load/unload ramp;
15 a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;
at least one aperture shelf that is disposed about said fastener receptacle, wherein said at least one aperture shelf is recessed relative to an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever; and

20 a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end, wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a fastener aperture; and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment
5 cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said fastener passes through said fastener aperture of said load/unload ramp assembly and said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers toward said base plate to in turn force said bottom surface of said load/unload
10 ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed in opposing relation, and wherein said at least one aperture shelf comprises first and second aperture shelves that are disposed in opposing relation.

67. (New) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 66, wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed about said fastener aperture such that an imaginary line connecting said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers is perpendicular to an imaginary line connecting said first and second aperture shelves.

68. (New) A disk drive comprising:
a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;
20 a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end,
wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever comprises at least one fastener head contact
protrusion disposed on an upper surface of said first base plate attachment cantilever; and
a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends
5 past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely
disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a
force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment
cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly
into engagement with said first surface of said base plate.

10 69. (New) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 68, wherein each said fastener head
contact protrusion on said first base plate attachment cantilever is disposed at least generally at said
first free end.

70. (New) A disk drive, as claimed in Claim 68, wherein said first base plate
attachment cantilever comprises a pair of said fastener head contact protrusions.

15 71. (New) A disk drive comprising:
a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first
surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle, wherein said base plate comprises first
and second alignment holes disposed on opposite sides of said boss, wherein said base plate also
comprises first and second mounting pads disposed on opposite sides of said boss, and wherein a
20 first imaginary line connecting said first and second alignment holes is substantially perpendicular to
a second imaginary line connecting said first and second mounting pads;
a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload
ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely

5 disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate.

72. (New) A disk drive comprising:

10 a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;

a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

15 and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment

cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein a lower surface of said head of said fastener is seated on an upper surface of said boss of said base plate.

73. (New) A disk drive comprising:

5 a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;
a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

10 and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment
15 cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said fastener exerts an axial force within a range of about 25 pounds up to about 400 pounds on said boss of said base plate.

74. (New) A disk drive comprising:

20 a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;
a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload

ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends

- 5 past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said fastener exerts an axial force
10 within a range of about 100 pounds up to about 200 pounds on said boss of said base plate.

75. (New) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;

a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload

- 15 ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely

disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said fastener exerts an axial force

5 within a range of about 1 pound up to about 10 pounds on said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly.

76. (New) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;

10 a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;

and

a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends

15 past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said first base plate attachment

20 cantilever deflects from about 4 mils to about 8 mils due to the force exerted by said head of said fastener.

77. (New) A disk drive comprising:
- a base plate comprising a first surface and a boss projecting away from said first surface, wherein said boss comprises a fastener receptacle;
- a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:
- 5 a ramp body that comprises:
- a load/unload ramp;
- a first base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a first free end;
- and
- a second base plate attachment cantilever that comprises a second free end, wherein said first and second free ends are disposed in spaced relation to define at least part of a
- 10 fastener aperture; and
- a fastener comprising a head and a shaft, wherein said shaft of said fastener extends past said first base plate attachment cantilever of said load/unload ramp assembly and is securely disposed within said fastener receptacle of said base plate such that said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first base plate attachment cantilever to deflect said first base plate attachment
- 15 cantilever toward said base plate to in turn force a bottom surface of said load/unload ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said fastener passes through said fastener aperture of said load/unload ramp assembly and said head of said fastener exerts a force on said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers to deflect said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers toward said base plate to in turn force said bottom surface of said load/unload
- 20 ramp assembly into engagement with said first surface of said base plate, wherein said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are disposed in opposing relation.

78. (New) A disk drive comprising:

a base plate, wherein said base plate comprises a raised boss, wherein said raised boss comprises a fastener receptacle, wherein said fastener extends within said fastener receptacle;

5 ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever; and

a fastener engaged with said base plate, engaged with said first base plate attachment cantilever, and movable from a first position to a second position, wherein first base attachment cantilever is in spaced relation to said base plate when said fastener is in said first position, and

10 wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever is deflected into engagement with said base plate when said fastener is in said second position, wherein said fastener exerts a first axial force on said raised boss and a second axial force on said first base plate attachment cantilever, wherein said first axial force is greater than said second axial force.

79. (New) A disk drive comprising:

15 a base plate, wherein said base plate comprises a raised boss, wherein said raised boss comprises a fastener receptacle, wherein said fastener extends within said fastener receptacle;

a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:

a ramp body that comprises:

a load/unload ramp; and

a first base plate attachment cantilever; and

a fastener engaged with said base plate, engaged with said first base plate attachment cantilever, and movable from a first position to a second position, wherein first base plate attachment cantilever is in spaced relation to said base plate when said fastener is in said first position, and wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever is deflected into engagement with said base plate

5 when said fastener is in said second position, wherein said fastener exerts a first axial force on said raised boss within a range of about 25 pounds to about 400 pounds, and exerts a second axial force on said first base plate attachment cantilever within a range of about 1 pound to about 10 pounds.

80. (Previously Presented) A disk drive comprising:
- 10 a base plate;
- a load/unload ramp assembly disposed on said base plate, wherein said load/unload ramp assembly comprises:
- a ramp body that comprises:
- a load/unload ramp;
- a first base plate attachment cantilever; and
- a second base plate attachment cantilever; and
- a fastener engaged with said base plate, engaged with said first base plate attachment
- 15 cantilever, and movable from a first position to a second position, wherein first base plate attachment cantilever is in spaced relation to said base plate when said fastener is in said first position, and wherein said first base plate attachment cantilever is deflected into engagement with said base plate when said fastener is in said second position, wherein said fastener simultaneously engages both said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers, wherein said second base plate attachment
- 20 cantilever is in spaced relation to said base plate when said fastener is in said first position, and wherein said second base plate attachment cantilever is deflected into engagement with said base

plate when said fastener is in said second position, wherein said base plate further comprises first and second raised pads engaged with said ramp body, wherein said first and second raised pads and said first and second base plate attachment cantilevers are equally spaced about said fastener, with said first and second raised pads being disposed between said first and second base plate attachment
5 cantilevers proceeding in opposite directions about said fastener.